



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
2600 Washington Avenue
Third Floor
Newport News, Virginia 23607*

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

June 15, 2018

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2018 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB HAND HARVEST FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12 NOON, SATURDAY, JUNE 16th, 2018.

Effective 12 noon, Saturday, June 16th, 2018, the Virginia horseshoe crab hand harvest commercial fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it is projected that Virginia will have harvested 100% of the horseshoe crab hand harvest category quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Hand Harvest Permittees, by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 12 noon, Saturday, June 16th, 2018, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except trawl or pound net shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments please contact Adam Kenyon (757) 247-8068.

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

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